



SUSTAINABLE  
ENERGY FOR ALL

# 2012: THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FOR ALL

*The United Nations General Assembly has declared 2012 the International Year of Sustainable Energy for All, recognizing that "...access to modern affordable energy services in developing countries is essential for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and sustainable development, which would help to reduce poverty and to improve the conditions and standard of living for the majority of the world's population."*

The General Assembly's Resolution 65/151 called on UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to organize and coordinate activities to be undertaken during the Year that increase awareness of the importance of addressing energy issues. This is to include providing modern energy services for all, greater access to affordable energy, improving energy efficiency and the sustainability of energy sources and use at local, national, regional and international levels.

In response, the Secretary-General is undertaking action to support the Year through a new global initiative on Sustainable Energy for All. Announced to the General Assembly in September 2011, and spearheaded by a High-Level Group on Sustainable Energy for All, the initiative will mobilize action from governments, the private sector, and civil society partners globally. The Secretary-General has set three interlinked objectives for his initiative: ensuring universal access to modern energy services, doubling the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency, and doubling the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix.

The International Year of Sustainable Energy for All will provide a vital advocacy platform for raising awareness of the challenge.

## KEY INITIATIVE DATES IN 2012

- Jan. 16-18:** Global Rollout of the International Year of Sustainable Energy for All at the World Future Energy Summit  
*Abu Dhabi, UAE*
- Feb. 1:** Asian Regional Rollout of the International Year of Sustainable Energy for All  
*New Delhi, India*
- Feb. 8:** European Regional Rollout of the International Year of Sustainable Energy for All  
*Brussels, Belgium*
- Feb. 21:** African Regional Rollout of the International Year of Sustainable Energy for All  
*Nairobi, Kenya*
- April-May:** Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Consultation (UNDP)  
*Barbados*
- June 20-22:** Rio+20, UN Conference on Sustainable Development  
*Rio de Janeiro, Brazil*
- Sept.** Report to the UN General Assembly on the International Year of Sustainable Energy for All  
*UNHQ*
- Dec.** Closing ceremony for the International Year of Sustainable Energy for All